

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

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----- 093586

R 262324Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANJUL

UNCLAS STATE 203446

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, GA

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GAMBIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS

REF: MCFARLAND/WYGANT TELECON OF AUGUST 26

FOR WYGANT FROM MCFARLAND

1. DISAPPOINTED AT SHIFT OF NOMINEES AND TIMING OF PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT TO US. HOPE YOU WILL POINT OUT TO SOSSEH THAT THREE NOMINEES WERE SELECTED ON BASIS AGRICULTURAL/COMMERCIAL INTERESTS, COMPATIBILITY, GOOD IMAGE WE BELIEVE THEY WOULD PROJECT FOR THE GAMBIA IN US.

2. FYI THIS MEANS NEW INTERVIEWS WITH ALTERNATES, SUBMISSION NEW BIOS, POSSIBLE SWITCH IN AREAS OF FOCUS OF TRIP. ON RECEIPT NOMINATING CABLE, DALSIMER HAD GRANTS PREPARED (8/22) PRIOR GOING ON LEAVE IN ORDER SPEED PROCESS. MCFARLAND SELECTED AS STATE DEPARTMENT ESCORT ON BASIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH GRANTEES AND DETAILED KNOWLEDGE THEIR INTERESTS AND AREA OF FOCUS. NOT WELL ACQUAINTED WITH ALTERNATES. LATTER COULD WELL BE PRINCIPAL NOMINEES A YEAR HENCE OR RECIPIENTS FALL-OUT
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GRANTS NEXT SUMMER. THEY WERE NOT PREVIOUSLY PRINCIPAL NOMINEES WHO HAD BEEN PASSED OVER. THIS FIRST TIME

GOTG HAS SWITCHED CANDIDATES AT THIS STAGE OF EXERCISE

IN MY EXPERIENCE. CURRENT ARRANGEMENT SMACKS TOO MUCH
OF GOTG SELECTING PARTY FAITHFUL TO RECEIVE REWARD
RATHER THAN MAKING SWITCH DUE NON-AVAILABILITY OUR
NOMINEES. END FYI.

3. SEPTEMBER 22 ARRIVAL ESSENTIAL FOR ORIGINAL THREE
CANDIDATES IN ORDER PERMIT ATTENDANCE AT CERTAIN FIXED
EVENTS. REGARDLESS OF WHO TRAVELS ON THIS GRANT, ANY
APPRECIABLE DELAY WILL GET GROUP INCREASINGLY INTO COLD
WEATHER. INGERSOLL

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